

Campfire and Friar Rock Earned Titular Honors in Their Respective Classes on the American Turf This Year

RACING GAME INTO ITS OWN THIS SEASON

Larger Crowds Saw Better Contests Than at Any Time Since 1908.

CAMPFIRE EARNED MORE THAN \$50,000

When the bugler sounds "Tape" at Belmont Park tomorrow afternoon there will come to a close the most successful season the turf in the metropolitan district has known since the repeal of the twenty-day law in 1908. In every way it was the most successful since "racing came back." The crowds were larger, the purses and stakes more valuable, the contests better and the culture of the contestants as a whole was better.

It seemed as though every day gained new patrons of the turf and they continued to increase until Labor Day, when they gathered by the thousands at Belmont Park and filled that huge course to overflowing. Their presence wrote the history for it will be recorded that more persons saw the races on that day than at any time in the past in nearly a decade. And judging from the enthusiasm displayed before, during and after the events, it was a crowd that will support the sport in the future. They were cheered by the contests and gave vent to their feelings with loud applause.

Belmont Deserves Credit.

As in former years, August Belmont, chairman of the Jockey Club, was the man who did most to bring the sport back to its own. Declaring that racing was a sport for the wealthy any more than it was for the poor, he opened the gates of Belmont Park and gave all who cared to come free admission to the clubhouse and the old field stand. Always his invitation was accepted, by thousands who could ill afford to pay the \$3 admission to the grand stand, and it will always be thus, for Mr. Belmont has said that while he is head of the Westchester Racing Association (Belmont Park) the poor men, those who love a horse and cannot afford to pay to see him, will be admitted to the clubhouse and the old field stand. This was an important step. The owner received cheers, of course, but more than that, the owner, whose name is on the clubhouse and black cap, was probably the most popular on the turf.

Mr. Belmont is exceptionally pleased with the results of the season's racing, but he is far from satisfied. He wants to see the sport more popular than it ever was in this country and to that end he is working ceaselessly. He wants to make it a sport for rich and poor alike, and he is working to that end. He wants more persons to accept his only two champions crowned.

The year decided only two champions. This was R. T. Wilson, Jr.'s, Campfire and August Belmont's Friar Rock. That was the best two-year-old of the year there was no doubt. This lazy-looking son of Olambala—Nightfall proved this on several occasions. He carried the title of king of the yearlings early in the season, clinched the crown at Saratoga and then won it outright when he captured the Futurity Stakes at Belmont. This younger of the best two-year-olds he also won the largest amount of money during the year. He started only nine times, but he won five times. He carried his title in the Futurity Stakes, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths.

Black Ivory Showed Class.

While Campfire proved that he is entitled to the crown many horsemen regret that he never met James Butler's colt, Black Ivory. This younger of the best four-year-olds and on each occasion showed that he was of championship caliber. He won two events and finished second in the other two. He was the only colt to develop his greatest speed because it was shown out of the Futurity.

Black Ivory Whitney too has a colt that has proved himself a champion. That was in the Preakness Stakes, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths.

Nothing of Handicap Class.

There was no handicapping shown during the season. The only handicapping shown was in the Futurity Stakes, where the handicapper gave Black Ivory a weight advantage. This was a mistake, for Black Ivory was the better horse. He won the Futurity Stakes by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths. He also won the \$10,000 Stakes at Saratoga, where he won by a margin of two and a half lengths.

TWO EQUINE CHAMPIONS OF 1916, THEIR OWNERS AND TRAINERS.



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